

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 120537

60

ORIGIN SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /026 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/ARN:MDRAPER:JFC

APPROVED BY THE SECRETARY

S/S - O:LRMACFARLANE

NEA - MR. ATHERTON

NSC -MR. OAKLEY

NSC-MR. OAKLEY

----- 039797

O 160220Z MAY 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 120537

EXDIS, FOR AMBASSADOR MELOY FROM THE SECRETARY

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, LE, U.S.

SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL MESSAGE TO SARKIS

1. FOLLOWING IS A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT TO ELIAS SARKIS WHICH SHOULD BE CONVEYED TO HIM IMMEDIATELY UPON HIS TAKING OFFICE OR WHEN YOU PRESENT YOUR CREDENTIALS TO HIM, IF THAT HAPPENS TO TAKE PLACE WITHIN A DAY OR SO OF THE INAUGURATION.

2. BEGIN TEXT:

QUOTE:

DEAR PRESIDENT SARKIS:

IN THE SPIRIT OF THE VERY CLOSE AND FRIENDLY RELATIONS WHICH HAVE FOR SO LONG EXISTED BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENTS AND PEOPLES OF OUR TWO COUNTRIES, I CONGRATULATE YOU UPON YOUR TAKING OFFICE AS LEBANON'S NEW PRESIDENT. THE COURAGE AND WISDOM SHOWN IN THE SUCCESSFUL HOLDING OF ELECTIONS IN

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 STATE 120537

ACCORDANCE WITH CONSTITUTIONAL PROCESSES IS ADMIRABLE. IT

GIVES NEW HOPE TO THOSE WHO WISH TO SEE A RESOLUTION OF THE PROBLEMS THAT HAVE BESET YOUR COUNTRY IN A PEACEFUL, DEMOCRATIC MANNER CONSONANT WITH LEBANON'S TRADITIONS.

THE PEOPLE OF THE UNITED STATES HAVE THE DEEPEST SYMPATHY FOR THE MAGNITUDE OF SUFFERING WHICH HAS OCCURRED. MY GOVERNMENT STANDS READY TO BE HELPFUL IN WHATEVER WAY IT CAN TO ALLEVIATE THIS TRAGIC SITUATION. IN THE FUTURE, AS IN THE PAST, LEBANON CAN COUNT UPON UNITED STATES SUPPORT FOR ITS INDEPENDENCE, TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY AND NATIONAL UNITY, AS WELL AS OUR DEDICATION TO THE GOAL OF A JUST AND DURABLE PEACE FOR ALL STATES AND PEOPLES OF THE MIDDLE EAST.

WITH MY BEST WISHES FOR YOU AND FOR THE PEOPLE OF LEBANON,

SINCERELY,

GERALD R. FORD UNQUOTE

3. IN DELIVERING THIS MESSAGE, YOU SHOULD INDICATE THAT THERE IS NO OBJECTION TO HIS MAKING IT PUBLIC. KISSINGER

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: CONGRATULATORY MESSAGES, ASSUMPTION OF OFFICE
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 16 MAY 1976
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: vogelfj
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976STATE120537
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: MDRAPER:JFC
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760189-0874
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760548/aaaabpgu.tel
Line Count: 83
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN SS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: vogelfj
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 26 JUL 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <26 JUL 2004 by KelleyW0>; APPROVED <18 OCT 2004 by vogelfj>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PRESIDENTIAL MESSAGE TO SARKIS
TAGS: PFOR, LE, US, (FORD, GERALD R), (SARKIS, ELIAS)
To: BEIRUT
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006